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Saturday, May 4, 2013

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Growing wildfire near LA threatens homes



Fire burns along the Pacific Coast Highway close to Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) near Point Mugu, California. (AFP PHOTO)

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Some 4,000 homes were threatened by a growing wildfire northwest of Los Angeles that has forced the closure of California's scenic coastal highway, firefighters said yesterday.

Nearly 1,000 firefighters are battling wind-fanned flames that have ripped through tinder-dry brush near Malibu, burning more than 10,000 acres (40 square kilometers), said the Ventura County Fire Department (VCFD).

The fire started Thursday, forcing the closure of an eight-mile (13-kilometer) section of the Pacific Coast Highway

(PCH) and a university campus, and reaching a US Navy facility on the coast, reports said.

By yesterday morning 15 homes had been damaged but none destroyed, the VCFD said on its Twitter feed, putting the number of homes threatened at 4,000. The blaze has been 10 percent contained, it added.

VCFD spokeswoman Lori Ross said the fire was heading south towards the LA County line, adding that firefighters were concerned that winds could turn onshore, posing a new threat.

Europe Meets Americas conference begins this Sunday

Beginning tomorrow, the Ministry of Economic & Social Affairs and Culture will be welcoming delegates from 21 countries for the inaugural Europe Meets the Americas Conference, taking place at the Westin Aruba Resort in Palm Beach.

Organized by the Aruba Investment Association, ARINA, the conference is a giant step towards the realization of a diversifying Aruba's economy: establishing the island as a commercial and cultural hub between the economically developing and surging economies of Latin America and the region, and European nations seeking fiscal opportunities.

The focus areas for the Europe Meets the Americas Business Conference will be:

Sustainability", specifically

Potential partners from Aruba, Europe and Latin America

1 2 3 4 5



Going green at EMA

in the areas of infrastructure, food, clean energy, and construction. "Logistics," in particular regional and natural distribution centers for retailers, green products, etc., to serve the Caribbean and Latin markets and "Business and Professional Services Industry," including back-office support operations (niche markets) customer support and telemarketing call centers, accounting

and payroll services, processing facilities, administrative support, and headquarters.

Before getting down to business, teams from eight countries will participate in a congenial Beach Soccer Tournament on the shorefront of the Divi Phoenix Resort in Palm Beach, beginning at 2:00 PM, as delegates arrive to check in.

Continued on page 4

Aruba flag waving proudly in the Netherlands



Photo above shows the Aruban flag among the multitude of people in the 'Dam' in the Netherlands during the installation of King Willem-Alexander on April 30. The flag was so big and so high it could be spotted from every corner of the 'Dam.' Certainly a very emotive sight for all Arubans and all those who love our island. The Flag was hoisted by a few Aruban students who wanted to show the world their love for Aruba, the Netherlands and the Royal House of Orange. No doubt, a tremendous initiative.

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Crystal & Seaport Casinos giving away Afl. 100.000 in prizes



On Wednesday, May 1st, Crystal & Seaport Casinos kicked off their VIP CASH CAMPAIGN which has the sum of Afl. 100.000 in cash prizes, said Marketing Coordinator

Tirzane Williams. This grand campaign was organized for all the loyal clients of Crystal and Seaport Casinos and to participate is really easy. With every 25 points accu-

mulated on the membership card of Crystal & Seaport Casinos one will receive 1 ticket to fill out and deposit in one of the tombolas situated at Crystal or Seaport Casinos. With this ticket participants have the chance to win:

- 1st prize: 25.000 florins
- 2nd prize: 10.000 florins
- 3rd prize: 5.000 florins
- 4th prize: 2500 florins
- 5th prize: 2500 florins
- 6th prize: 2500 florins
- 7th prize: 2500 florins

The first drawing will be on July 5th at the Seaport Casino. The winner must be present with a valid I.D. and their membership card.

Table and Race & Sportsbook Players can also participate.

"So if you are not a member as yet, pass by as soon as possible by one of our player centers at Crystal & Seaport Casinos and apply and take advantage of this incredible offer."

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New Revamped SETAR Airport Kiosk



SETAR N.V., Aruba's #1 in telecommunication announced their new Airport kiosk following a recent revamp. In an effort to increase the look and functionality of their Kiosk, SETAR has renovated its Airport Kiosk overall appearance with vibrant colors and beautiful images giving it a nicer cleaner look while promoting its services. With daily visits from tourists and visitors, the SETAR kiosk located at the arrivals hall offers many services such as Smartphone data plans, 4G SIM cards for cellphones & tablets, 4G dongles & cell phones for rent and Wi-Fi & 4G prepaid cards.

For more information on SETAR'S services, visit the kiosk at the arrivals hall.

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Will you Rock for the Arts this weekend?

Please join us for an evening of Led Zeppelin's greatest songs played by local and guest musicians at the Hard Rock Café this Saturday, May 4 from 7-11PM. The show is produced by local artist Ernesto Ferro, and sponsored by the Hard Rock Café. This event is a fundraiser for the Arts Complex under construction at the International School of Aruba.

The Project Specifics: Six rooms for World Language, Visual, Performing and Dialogue Arts:

- Two Classroom Studios

devoted to the Visual Arts

- Two Classrooms dedicated to World Language Arts: Secondary Dutch (VWO, Havo and Mavo) and English Language

- One Performing Arts Studio for Dance, Music and Drama

- One Multidisciplinary Conference Room

How will the rest of Aruba benefit from this project?

This building will support both ISA and Community programs. In addition to the full school programs during the

day, ISA imagine the school open from 4:00PM each day to evening, as well as Saturday; the school would like to create classes for the community at affordable prices. Programs could include the arts – visual (painting, drawing and ceramics) and performing (drama, dance and musical theater,) as well as world languages, especially English, Dutch and Spanish. ISA recently started hosting local soccer groups, as well as informal matches in basketball, beach volleyball and beach tennis, and look for-

ward to expanding those programs as well. ISA for all!

How does ISA align with the Aruban education? ISA plays a unique role in the educational opportunities offered on Aruba. It serves students who want an English language school accredited by the United States and/or Holland.

Continued on page 5

ROCK FOR THE ARTS
FUNDRAISING EVENT

Sponsors: Hard Rock, CHIX, VASA, Bula, Radisson, Amazonia, Polaris Adventure, ROMAR, Vibration, Sasaki, Playa Linda, and others.

Canadian wedding planners experience a wedding night at the Marriott



Canadian wedding planners at the Marriott.



Luxe destination wedding planners and Colleen Lessard of ATA



Instyle destination wedding planner and Marriott Sales Coordinator Abigail van der Linden

On Friday April 26, the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino Sales team hosted 15 wedding planners from Canada for a dinner reception at the resort's outdoor venue the West Lawn.

Together with Aruba Tourism Authority's representative Colleen Lessard the group of wedding planners experienced

a wedding dinner reception at the Aruba Marriott. Sales Coordinator Abigail van der Linden arranged an intimate reception and dinner in an outdoor wedding décor. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and a three course plated dinner menu from the resort's banquets menus and live entertainment by violinist

Angela to set the romantic atmosphere.

After a short site inspection, the wedding planners showed great interest in the resort and were impressed with the Marriott venue locations, food and the guest service.

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Glitz and Glamour...

Glitz Casino treats guests as 'Royalty' at the 'Royal Slot Tournament'



Glitz Casino also joined the celebrations on May 30th, on Queen's Day where the

The treatment guests received was indeed fit for a King. Over 160 guests participated



Dutch Kingdom inaugurated their new King.

Glitz Casino organized a ROYAL SLOT TOURNAMENT for guests.

each received a Orange T-shirt as a memento on this special day. The t-shirt said at the back "I Was Treated Like Royalty At The Glitz" and at the front a crown with the date.

A total of AWG. 4000,00 was given away in CASH PRIZES, and the GRAND-PRIZE which was won by Mr. Luis Ras was the nice sum of AWG. 2000,00.

Entertainment was left in the magic hands of Giovanni Trim. A great day was had by one and all!

Glitz Casino want to also remind everyone that every Wednesday they have their FREE Slot Tournament with over US\$1200,- in cash prizes. Interested players can start registering from Tuesday on at 5 p.m. at the Glamour Club.

Glitz Casino is located on the in the La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino.

Photos attached depicts the players having a great time.

Europe Meets Americas

Continued from page 1



Laurens Jan Brinkhorst

Players from Portugal, The Netherlands, Colombia, Venezuela, Haiti, Aruba and Brazil, with special guest from La Guajira will provide a fine show, with accompanying refreshments booths and music.

Monday morning, the official opening event will feature guest speakers Simon Smits, the Director General for External Relations of the Netherlands and Laurens Jans Brinkhorst, former Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs. After a short break, keynote speakers Jose Maria Figueres, former President of Costa Rica and now President of the Carbon War Room and Jan Peter Balkenende, former Dutch Prime Minister and Minister of General Affairs, will address the conference regarding the concept and advantages of the Latin America-Aruba-European triangle.

This landmark event will finish on Wednesday, May 8



Jan Peter Balkenende

with a morning of networking appointments for representatives of the more than 250 companies registered to participate; a large percentage of them from Brazil and Colombia and Holland.

USA Today reported: "Aruba as experiencing strong economic stability and attracting foreign investors. With most countries still struggling to climb out of the world financial crisis, the island nation of Aruba, located in the Caribbean and belonging to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, is making its recovery, with its GDP growing by the almost double-digit figure of 8.9% in 2011 and a projected growth of 3.1% in 2013-2014."

"Because of this recent growth as well as openness to international markets and a safe, transparent business environment, Aruba is considered one of the most financially stable countries in the region."



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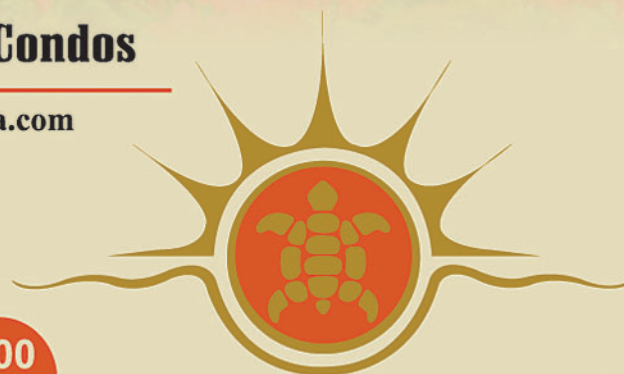
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Will you Rock...?

Continued from page 3

Because the school also successfully prepare students for the Dutch landsexamen (Mavo, Havo and VWO), students have the opportunity to attend college or university anywhere in the world. ISA support the professional and business communities of Aruba through their services, and enhance the capabilities of Aruba to draw key expatriate families to the island.

ISA works hard to support Aruban initiatives and sees itself as a partner in the development of Aruba through education of its youth: 77 of the 205 students are Dutch/Aruban. ISA actively supports the Aruban community through a wide of range actions such as donating computers to a school in San Nicolas, lending buses to the Red Cross and others, volunteering at the Special Olympics, facilitating student tutors at the YMCA, numerous beach clean-ups, and more.

The possibilities! With the addition of this building, ISA teachers and staff will be able to create programs that will inspire students to grow and learn in all dimensions – physical, academic and spiritual. The Arts fill a niche and foster the human spirit in ways unattainable through academic or athletic activities.

With your support, ISA can become a true partner in the development of strong educational programs around the island. So, come Rock for the Arts this weekend at the Hard Rock Café!

Tickets are on sale at the Hard Rock Café and at the International School of Aruba.

1. \$75/adults – \$40/ children under the age of 18.

2. Tickets provide an all-you-can-eat buffet of hamburgers and salads, as well as bar snacks.

3. Adult tickets also provide 2 alcohol drinks, and children tickets provide unlimited soda.

There will also be an affordable raffle with lots of prizes include an electric guitar, dinners at local restaurants, resort stays, personally tailored shirts, local cruises and more!

Guest musician from off-island is Durban Laverde who has played with Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page, former Tina Turner pianist/singer John Miles, and the son of the Led Zeppelin drummer Jason Bonham. Alexis Pena is the main vocalist for this special event. They will be joined by local musicians Ernesto Ferro and Carole Ford.

Congratulations to participating schools in recycling project



Last week during a pleasant afternoon, Minister of Education Arthur Dowers met with the different schools that participated in a special recycling project. The Minister presented the prizes to the winners of the recycling art competition organized by the environment committee of AHATA. Various kindergarten schools, secondary schools and other schools participated in the competition. All the art products were put on display for two months at the Cas di Cultura. The Minister expressed how proud he was to see the different creations of the school children and those of other members of the community.

Children highlighted in their creations how we are to treat the environment so as to guarantee sustainability of our flora and fauna and of the community in which we live. The children made good use of such materials as plastic, cartons, cork and much other material to create their works of art.

According to the Minister, we need to continue stimulating our young people to contribute to the sustainability of our nature. Much praise went to AHATA for their initiative in organizing this event.

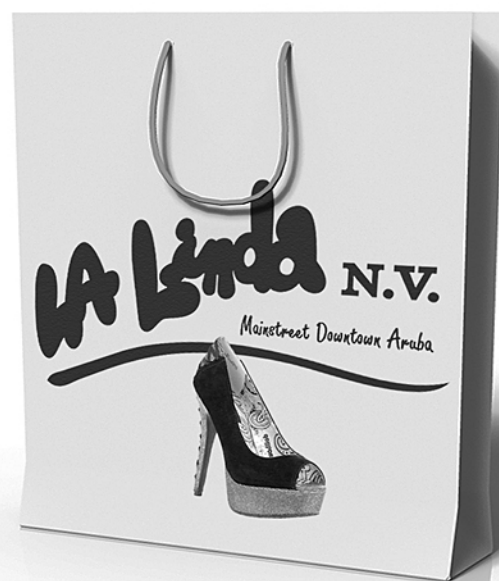




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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'Tsarnaev innocent' leaflets pasted in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK (AFP) - Kyrgyzstan special services said yesterday they were looking for people who pasted up leaflets proclaiming the innocence of alleged Boston bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who spent his early childhood in the ex-Soviet state.

Black-and-white leaflets were pasted in central Bishkek in underpasses and outside the central department store with images of Tsarnaev at various ages and the caption "Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is innocent, pray for Dzhokhar," local media reported.

The Kyrgyz special services "are trying to find the distributors of these leaflets," their press office told AFP.

Tsarnaev, who has been charged over the deadly bombings after his brother Tamerlan was shot dead, spent his early years in a town outside Bishkek before his family moved to Dagestan in Russia and later to the United States.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev has been charged with federal terror offences over the twin blasts on April 15 that killed three and wounded 264 people at the Boston Marathon's finish

line.

The leaflets in Kyrgyzstan called the charges against Tsarnaev baseless and said that his relatives were being slandered. They urged people to "give him help and support."

Similar leaflets appeared in Grozny, the capital of Chechnya, Kavkaz Uzel (Caucasian Knot) online news site reported, although this was denied by the authorities.

The text of a picture of a leaflet published by the website said: "This charge is baseless, there is not one piece of evidence against him."

It also asked people to donate money online to help his parents and included a link to a Russian-language social networking page titled "Dzhokhar is innocent."

The spokesman of Chechnya's strongman leader Ramzan Kadyrov, Alvi Karimov, told Russia's Echo of Moscow radio station: "This is an absolute lie. There are no leaflets here."

Russian radio station Russkaya Sluzhba Novostei reported that at least one caller had seen a similar leaflet on a Moscow street.

100 dead, rescuers trapped in collapsed Darfur mine

KHARTOUM (AFP) - Around 100 miners are estimated to have died inside a collapsed gold mine in Sudan's Darfur region and nine rescuers trying to free them are now trapped, a miner said yesterday.

"Nine of the rescue team disappeared when the land collapsed around them on Thursday," said the miner, who had visited the scene and asked to remain anonymous.

On Monday the unlicensed desert gold mine began to collapse in Jebel Amir district, more than 200 kilometres (125 miles) northwest of the North Darfur state capital El Fasher. The stench of death is now seeping out of the baked earth, the miner said.

"Yesterday eight bodies have been found and still they are looking for the others," he said.

'Massacre' feared as Syria war comes to port city

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Syrian troops yesterday bombarded Sunni areas of the Mediterranean city of Baniyas, a monitoring group said, warning of a new "massacre," as Washington said for the first time it was looking at arming rebels.

The opposition National Coalition denounced a "large-scale massacre" by troops and militiamen on Thursday in a Sunni village near Baniyas, a new front in Syria's war, citing witness reports of civilians being stabbed to death.

"The Coalition calls on the Arab League and the United Nations to act rapidly to save the civilians of Bayda, Baniyas and other villages across Syria," it said in a statement, accusing the regime of "war crimes and genocide".

"Several sources in the village say at least 50 people were killed in summary executions and shelling in Bayda village," a southern suburb of the Alawite-majority city, Rami

Abdel Rahman of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights told AFP.

The official SANA news agency said troops killed "terrorists" -- the regime term for insurgents -- and seized arms in an operation targeting rebels.

Regular forces were supported by pro-regime "shabiha" militiamen, said the Observatory, which relies on a network of sources on the ground for its information.

The Baniyas region is predominantly Alawite, an offshoot of Shiite Islam and the sect of President Bashar al-Assad, while the insurgents battling to topple his regime are mainly Sunni Muslims.

Yesterday, the army bombarded Sunni areas of Baniyas as heavy gunfire rocked southern parts of the city, the Observatory said.

Abdel Rahman said troops were raiding homes and making arrests.



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TEGUCIGALPA -- AFP photo shows people from Morazan neighborhood between rubble after heavy rains hit Tegucigalpa yesterday. Two people are missing and streets and homes were destroyed after heavy rain pound Honduras.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pakistan election candidate shot dead: *police*

KARACHI (AFP) - A candidate running for parliament in next week's historic Pakistani election was shot dead on Friday along with his three-year-old son after praying in a mosque in Karachi, police said.

It is the first time that a national assembly candidate has been killed in Pakistan's election campaign. Campaigning has been marred by Taliban threats and attacks, which have killed 63 people since April 11, according to an AFP tally.

The May 11 polls for the national and regional assemblies mark the first time that a civilian government completes a full-term and hands over to another at the ballot box, in a country that has been ruled by the military for half its life.

Saddiq Zaman Khattak was a businessman and a candidate for the Awami National Party (ANP), the leading secular party in Pakistan's ethnic Pas-

tun northwest. A party leader said he had previously received threats.

Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack and threatened further attacks on the ANP and its outgoing coalition partners, the Pakistan People's Party and MQM, the main party in Karachi.

"We have attacked him and we will continue such attacks in the future. ANP, People's Party and MQM are our targets," Taliban spokesman Ehsanullah Ehsan told AFP by telephone from an undisclosed location.

Pakistan's interim Prime Minister Mir Hazar Khan Khoso condemned the assassination and once again ordered security to be strengthened for candidates.

"Such incidents were aimed at disrupting the election process in the country. The federal government will take all steps necessary to check

such incidents," his office said in a statement.

Karachi, a city of 18 million people, contributes 42 percent of Pakistan's GDP but is rife with politically and ethnically linked violence.

Friday's assassination brings to three the number of constituencies where the May 11 election will now be delayed because candidates have been killed.

A man standing for the secular MQM in the Sindh provincial assembly, of which Karachi is the capital, was shot dead in the city of Hyderabad on April 11.

An independent candidate for the Baluchistan provincial assembly was also killed in the southwestern town of Jhal Magsi on Tuesday.

Karachi has seen a string of attacks on the election campaign.

Unauthorised replacement hips fitted to 650 French patients

PARIS (AFP) - French surgeons have fitted 650 people with replacement hips that had not been certified as meeting European standards, it emerged in a case with echoes of a scandal over faulty breast implants.

Health officials said there was no reason to believe that the non-certified prosthetics posed any health risk but the surgeons involved have been asked to carry out checks, including scans, on the patients concerned.

Pending the outcome of those, an investigation has been launched into the manufacturer,

Ceraver, and around 1,000 of its artificial hips have been confiscated, the national agency for medicine safety (ANSM) said.

The safety agency is also studying claims that newly developed Ceraver metal pins that had not received official clearance were implanted into four patients without them knowing they were effectively taking part in an experiment.

Ceraver is France's second-biggest manufacturer of artificial joints with an output of around 3,000 prosthetic ankles, hips, knees and shoulders a year.

China children killed with poisoned yoghurt

BEIJING (AFP) - Two children died in northern China after drinking yoghurt which a disgruntled kindergarten owner had injected with rat poison, state media reported.

The two girls in Hebei province drank the tainted yoghurt after their grandmother found it by a roadside, Xinhua news agency said.

The children, whose ages were not given, were found "foaming at the mouth," shortly afterwards, the report said. One died before reaching hospital while the other died later.

A preliminary investigation

found that the yoghurt had been adulterated with rat poison by a female kindergarten owner competing for village students with the owner of a rival establishment, the agency quoted local police as saying.

It said the woman had asked a man to place the poisoned yoghurt on the roadside along with several notebooks. It was unclear from the report how the poisoning would have discredited the rival kindergarten.

Many children in the countryside are cared for by their grandparents because their parents have migrated to cities to find work.



HONG KONG (AFP) - Clouds build up over the Victoria harbour before a storm in Hong Kong yesterday.



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China detains 900 over toxic meat scandal: official



BEIJING (AFP) - China has detained 900 people for crimes including selling rat and fox meat as beef and mutton, the public security ministry said, in another blow to the nation's food safety.

News of the three-month operation, which related to meat products, added to a string of scandals that have galvanised public concern over food safety in China, from recycled cooking oil to dangerous chemicals in baby milk powder.

Altogether there were "382 cases of water-injected meat, fake mutton and beef, diseased meat, toxic and harmful meat products", the ministry said on its website on Thursday.

"Nine hundred and four suspects were arrested, more than 20,000 tons of various types of fake or inferior meat products were confiscated."

The crimes ranged from

sellers in eastern Jiangsu province making fake mutton from fox, rat and chemicals, and others in southwestern Guizhou province mixing hydrogen peroxide solution with chicken claws.

The scandal was widely discussed by users of China's popular Sina Weibo microblog.

"Anything can be done once humanity is gone," said one user.

China's top court on Friday announced its first ever detailed guidelines for the punishment of food-safety related crimes, the state-run China News Service reported.

The crimes listed included supplying meat from animals which died of illness, selling food with excessive amounts of chemical additives, and falsely advertising food products, the report said, citing China's Supreme People's

Court.

The public security ministry said the sting on the toxic meat was part of a wider probe into food safety issues, from the discovery in March of thousands of dead pigs floating down a Shanghai river to the problem of "gutter oil".

Cheap recycled cooking oil is available nationwide made illegally from leftovers scooped out of restaurant drains.

One of China's worst food safety scandals hit in 2008 when the industrial chemical melamine was found to have been illegally added to dairy products, killing at least six babies and making 300,000 people ill.

In another recent incident, US fast food giant KFC was hit by controversy after revealing some Chinese suppliers provided chicken with high levels of antibiotics, in what appeared to be an industry-wide practice.



Health & Living

Fears for man-made bird flu bug

PARIS (AFP) - Immunologists expressed concern Friday about the "dangerous" work of scientists in China who created a hybrid bird flu virus that can spread in the air between guinea pigs, and now lives in a lab freezer.

The team from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Gansu Agricultural University wrote in the journal Science they had created a new virus by mixing genes from H5N1 "bird flu" and H1N1 "swine flu".

H5N1, transmitted to people by birds, is fatal in about 60 percent of cases, but does not transmit between humans -- a characteristic that has prevented a pandemic so far.

Some argue that hybrid studies like these shed light on how the virus could mutate in nature to cause a human epidemic, and may help us prepare.

Since 2003, H5N1 has infected 628 people, killing 374, according to the World Health Organisation.

H1N1, which erupted in Mexico, is highly transmissible and infected a fifth of the world's population in a 2009-10 pandemic, but is about as lethal as ordinary flu.

The new mutant virus was easily transmitted between guinea pigs through respiratory droplets -- which the Chinese team said proved the deadly H5N1 virus may need but a simple genetic mutation to "acquire mammalian transmissibility".

Flu hybrids can arise in nature when two virus strains infect the same cell and exchange genes in a process known as reassortment, but there is no evidence that H1N1 and H5N1 have done so yet.

Some observers fear that science is putting mankind at risk by preemptively creating such mutants.

"These are manmade viruses,

they have never been made in Nature. They are now sitting in a freezer," virology professor Simon Wain-Hobson of France's Pasteur Institute told AFP.

He pointed to a laboratory leak of foot and mouth, a cattle disease, which caused an outbreak in Britain six years ago.

It was unclear how the flu hybrid, which is not deadly in guinea pigs, would affect people -- but Wain-Hobson warned: "These could be pandemic viruses."

Wain-Hobson and others fear the risk may far outweigh the scientific value of the research.

The findings held little value for finding a vaccine or treatment that would take years to develop -- probably long after an outbreak, they argue.

"The record of containment in the highest containment laboratories is not good. There have been repeated leaks," said Robert May, a former president of Britain's Royal Society of science.

Virologist John Oxford from the Queen Mary University of London, however, said the experiment was a valuable wakeup call.

It showed that the two viruses, both still infecting people around the world, can swap genes.

In January, scientists in the United States and the Netherlands resumed controversial research into their own hybrid flu viruses after taking a year-long break to allay fears of the bug escaping the lab or falling into terrorist hands.

Their creation was able to jump between ferrets, considered a good research model for human disease spread.

The US-Dutch teams cited a "public health responsibility" to resume the work, halted after a public outcry and global safety probes.



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Sci-Tech**Solar plane takes off on cross-country US trip**

CALIFORNIA (AFP) - The first-ever manned airplane that can fly by day or night on the Sun's power alone took off Friday on the first leg of a trip across the United States.

Solar Impulse, piloted by Swiss adventurer Bertrand Piccard, left the runway in northern California against the backdrop of a golden morning sunrise, in what a mission control operator called a "perfect takeoff."

Flying quietly and slowly

at a speed of about 43 miles (70 kilometers) per hour, the plane is scheduled to arrive in Phoenix, Arizona, early Saturday under cover of darkness.

A dashboard showing the live speed, direction, battery status, solar generator and engine power, along with cockpit cameras of both Piccard and his view from the plane, are online at live.solarimpulse.com.

The US itinerary allows for up to 10 days at each stop in order to showcase the plane's technology to the public. Other stops are planned for Dallas, Texas, and the US capital Washington, before wrapping up in New York in early July.

That will allow two pilots -- Piccard and his co-founder, Swiss engineer and ex-fighter pilot Andre Borschberg -- to share duties and rest between flights.

The project aims to showcase what can be accomplished without fossil fuels, and has set its "ultimate goal" as an around-the-world flight in 2015.

The plane has four electric motors and runs on energy provided by 12,000 solar cells.

Longer trips have already been successfully completed by the plane, which made the world's first solar 26-hour day and night trip in 2010.

However, the cockpit has

room for just one pilot, so even though the plane could likely make the entire US journey in three days, Piccard decided it would be easier to rest and exchange flight control with Borschberg at rest

stops.

Solar Impulse was launched in 2003. The project's ultimate goal is to fly around the world, with that endeavor scheduled for 2015.

SPECIALS SPECIALS SPECIALS

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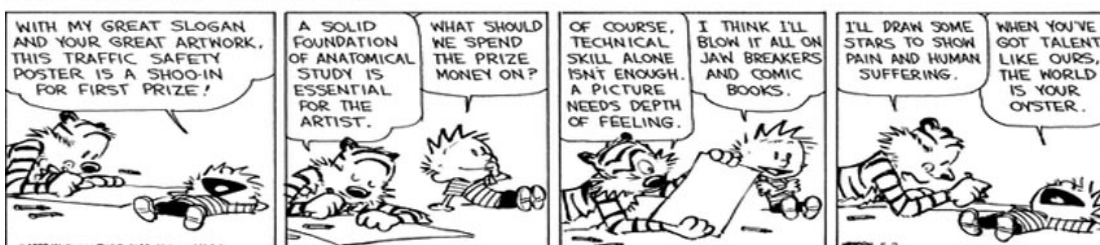
PICKLES



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ACROSS

1. Bird's winter treat
5. Invite
8. Sailor's cry
12. Milit. academy
13. "___ Love You" (2 wds.)
14. Slugger Ruth
15. Robe of office
17. Forehead
18. Professors' aides (abbr.)
19. ___ de menthe
21. Cries loudly
24. Women
25. Zodiac ram
26. American orator Daniel
30. City rds.
31. Bear's lair
32. Wheeling's state (2 wds., abbr.)
33. Runaway
36. Slalom participant
38. British elevator
39. Anxious
40. Formal dinnerware
42. Barracks fixture
43. Magician Henning
44. Poppycock
49. Receive wages
50. Taper off
51. Liberal's side
52. Luncheonette

orders

53. Record players (abbr.)
54. Napoleon's exile isle

DOWN

1. Excursion or Escalade
2. Exploit
3. Naval rank (abbr.)
4. Carry tales
5. Tarzan's buddies
6. 9-digit item (abbr.)
7. "Someone's in the ___ with Dinah..."
8. Convent head

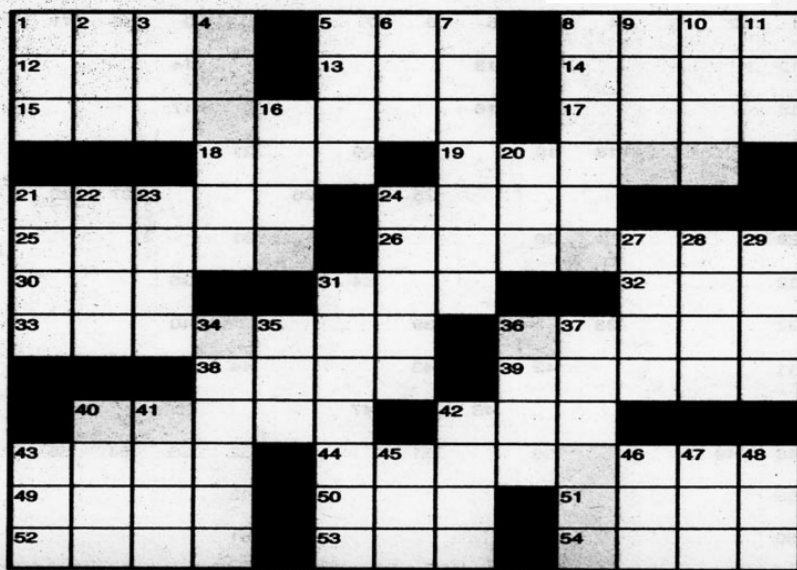
9. Injure

10. Woodwind
11. Evergreen shrub
16. Blob
20. Yank's opponent

21. Hitter's destination
22. Liberal ___
23. Neighbor of Mich.
24. "___ dreams"
27. Sheet size
28. Twilights
29. Uncustomary
31. Desecrated
34. Lines up
35. Wrestler's move
36. Halt

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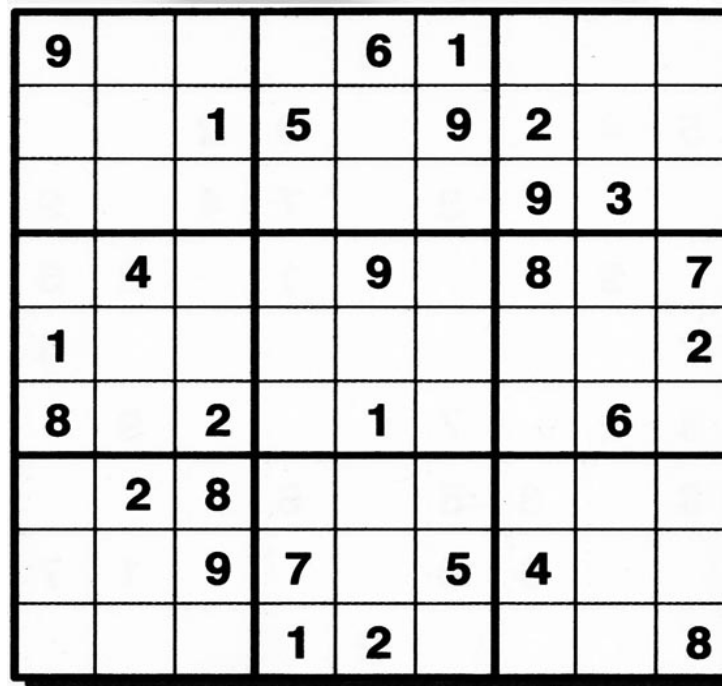
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6	2	4	9	8	4	6	1	9
9	4	1	9	7	6	8	2	5
6	9	9	4	1	7	2	5	8
2	7	5	8	9	9	4	6	1
4	1	8	2	6	5	9	7	3
1	5	6	7	4	8	9	9	2
9	8	2	6	5	9	1	4	7
4	9	4	1	9	2	5	8	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9

A number is Never repeated in a row or column.

In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

US adds 165K jobs in April; unemployment 7.5%

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A solid job creation report for April and a fall in the jobless rate to 7.5 percent sweetened the picture for the US economy Friday, amid worries that it has tumbled into a "spring slump."

The Labor Department said the economy added a firm 165,000 jobs last month.

But it also revised sharply upward the job growth numbers for February and March, adding 114,000 net new positions to the previously reported data, all in the private sector, even as taxes rose and government spending tightened.

Together that pressed the unemployment rate down 0.1 percentage point to 7.5 percent, underscoring steady if not spectacular gains in the job market in the past year. In April 2012, the jobless rate was 8.1 percent.

The better-than-expected data sparked a surge in US stocks, with the key indices jumping one percent on the news, while the dollar, after a brief spike higher, headed lower again.

Around 1503 GMT, the S&P 500 was up 1.3 percent at 1,617, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average smashed through the 15,000 barrier for the first time, gaining 1.2 percent to 15,006.

The dollar was at \$1.3134 to one euro, down from \$1.3063 late Thursday.

Alan Krueger, chairman of the White House's Council of Economic Advisers, said the data showed the economy's continuing pull away from the 2008-2009 Great Recession.

But he warned that the push for more federal spending reduction by Republicans in Congress could hurt growth.

The Labor Department report sharply revised the overall picture of employment and the economy more broadly from just one month ago, when ana-

lysts were shocked by the initial estimate of net jobs generated in March, a paltry 88,000.

Coupled with other data, the March report had suggested a spring stall in the economy, believed explainable by higher payroll and other taxes that took effect in January, and the sharp "sequester" federal spending cuts initiated on March 1.

The big surprise in the report was the revision of the March jobs growth number to 138,000, as well as February's, which gained 64,000 to 332,000.

April's gains were all in the private sector, as government continued to shed jobs amid tough budget cuts.

Job creation was strongest in the professional and business services sector, tourism and entertainment, retail trade and health care, while industrial sector jobs shrank.

Still, there were clear signs of ongoing weakness in the data.

The number of people counted as officially unemployed was little changed at 11.7 million.

In addition, the fall in jobs in the industrial sector, with manufacturing jobs flat, showed that efforts to rebuild US industry into a larger motor of the economy were sagging.

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Portugal unveils package of spending cuts

LISBON (AFP) - Portugal's prime minister said late Friday that the government aimed to slash 30,000 public sector jobs as part of a sweeping package of spending cuts to satisfy international creditors.

In a speech to the nation, Pedro Passos Coelho also said that the full pension age would be pushed back to 66 years old and civil servants would be expected to work 40 hours per week instead of 35.

The measures were announced in order to keep the small debt-hit eurozone member eligible for another slice of its much-needed bailout.

Coelho was unveiling the contents of the centre-right government's new "medium-term programme", under which Portugal is hoping to save a total of six billion euros

(\$7.9 billion) to 2016.

With the cuts, Portugal's public deficit is anticipated to narrow to 5.5 percent of gross domestic product this year, to 4.0 percent in 2014 and finally to 2.5 percent in 2015, under the EU's ceiling of 3.0 percent.

The plans will need to get the green light from its troika of international lenders -- the European Union, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund -- which granted Portugal a 78-billion-euro bailout loan two years ago.

The Portuguese economy is expected to shrink by 2.3 percent this year with unemployment poised to breach a record 18 percent.

Last month, the government was forced to revise its 2013

austerity plans when the country's Constitutional Court rejected several projected cuts it now has had to find elsewhere.

The government has pledged to avoid new tax hikes and instead plans to reduce administrative costs and make deep cuts to the public health, education and social security.

But Coelho is struggling for support. Austerity policies to meet bailout conditions have grown deeply unpopular and sparked several protests.

Portugal's main Socialist opposition party, which was in power when Lisbon sought the bailout in 2011, has accused the government of applying "excessive austerity" that has made recession and unemployment even worse.

China must obey ruling on US steel imports: WTO



GENEVA (AFP) - China must fall into line by July 31 with a World Trade Organisation order to change its restrictive policy on certain steel imports from the United States, an arbitrator said Friday.

A WTO dispute settlement hearing decided that Beijing had failed to prove why it needed more time to adapt its rules in order to respect a decision handed down by global commerce's rule-setting body in November.

In a ruling issued by the WTO, arbitrator Claus-Dieter Ehlermann said that he had de-

cided that eight months was a reasonable period of time to take corrective action.

The dispute dates back to September 2010, when Washington accused China of breaching trade rules by not providing sufficient evidence that anti-dumping duties were needed on US imports of electrical steel used in the power sector.

Anti-dumping duties can be deployed by any WTO member if others in the 159-economy organisation sell cut-price products to grab market share.

But the rules are strict on proving that dumping has taken

place, and Washington first won its case in June 2012, before a Chinese appeal failed.

Members found to be at fault are granted a period of grace to

change their policy, but the defendant and plaintiff often have different views on what is reasonable, leading to yet another hearing.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

B	U	L	B		J	O	N		M	A	G	I
O	P	I	E		U	P	A		O	M	E	N
T	S	A	R		N	E	V	A	D	A	N	S
H	Y	M	N		I	N	A	N	E			
					I	M	P		L	Y	R	I
					U	N	E	V	E	N		
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					S	E	A	H	O	R	S	E
					I	S	L	E		S	T	S
					N	E	A	R		H	S	T

O Condominiums

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Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

maintain. It is only three stories and twenty luxurious units, of which 14 will be oceanfront, the remainder, ocean view. Sizes range from one bedroom condominiums with a bath and a half to three-bedrooms, each bedroom with its own bath, and an additional guest half/bath. The designs include a family entertainment room that will

be specially fitted with electronic and Internet connections and outlets enabling a state-of-the-art-home theater. An important aspect of this singular facility is owners have various options to customize kitchens and fixtures to their particular tastes and standards.

Each apartment sports an extremely spacious 35 square meter covered terrace overlooking the sea. Windows will be double-paned and doors have weather stripping to insure less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck,

concierge services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

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Obama says time to break 'old stereotypes' with Mexico



MEXICO CITY (AFP) - President Barack Obama told Mexicans Friday that it was time to break with "old stereotypes," vowing an equal partnership and voicing optimism that US immigration reform will pass this year.

In a speech to young people in the Mexican capital's Anthropology Museum, Obama said he had come to the southern neighbor "because it is time to put old mindsets aside," acknowledging that a "new Mexico is emerging."

"Despite all the bonds and the values that we share, despite all the people who claim heritage on both sides, our attitudes sometimes are trapped in

old stereotypes," Obama said on the second and final day of his visit here.

"Some Americans only see the Mexico

that is depicted in sensational headlines of violence and border crossings," he said.

"And let's admit it, some Mexicans think that America disrespects Mexico, or think that America is trying to impose itself on Mexican sovereignty, or just want to wall ourselves off."

Obama, who sought to shift attention to trade ties despite years of drug violence, backed the reform efforts pushed by Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and vowed to broaden relations beyond the common threats they face.

"We are two equal partners, two sovereign nations. We must work together in mutual interest, in mutual respect, and if we

do that both Mexico and the United States will prosper," he said, one day after talks with Pena Nieto.

Obama acknowledged that demand for illegal drugs in the United States was the root cause of much of the violence in Mexico, but he reiterated that he opposed legalizing drugs as a solution.

Amid Mexican concerns about the illegal flow of weapons into the hands of drug cartels, Obama vowed to "do everything in my power" to pass gun control reforms to "keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people."

Turning to another US domestic issue of strong interest in Mexico, Obama said he was "absolutely convinced" that the US Congress would pass comprehensive immigration reform this year to bring 11 million undocumented workers out of the shadows.

He said the United States will work with Mexico to "have a well regulated border" -- a deep concern among Republicans in the US Congress.

New South Korean Buddhists



SEOUL : Young South Korean Buddhists with freshly shaved heads line up as they take part in a ceremony called "children becoming Buddhist monks" at Chogyue Temple ahead of Buddha's birthday in central Seoul on May 3, 2013. Buddha's official birthday in 2013 will be celebrated on the full moon on May 17 in South Korea.

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Hollywood star Will Smith eyes comedy with son

TAIPEI (AFP) - Hollywood star Will Smith said that he will probably shoot a comedy with his son Jaden when they team up for the third time in film-making.

Smith, who arrived in Taiwan on Thursday on a promotional tour, said it was "fantastic" to work with the 15-year-old in their second movie together, the sci-fi flick "After Earth", set to hit cinemas in June.

"Entertainment is our family business, so I am sure that if something comes up we'll do it again," Smith said at a red carpet fan meeting near the landmark Taipei 101 building, which was lit up with the movie's name.

"He (Jaden) is looking forward to a comedy, he's been having to do lots of drama for his career. Drama has kind of been his signature and he's



been asking to find a comedy," Smith said.

The father and son duo first collaborated in the drama "The Pursuit of Happyness", in which Smith played the role of father to his then eight-year-old son.

"After Earth" tells the story of how Smith and Jaden fight to survive after they crash land

on Earth, some 1,000 years after humans are forced to leave an uninhabitable Earth to live on another planet.

Jaden, who was also on site to greet hundreds of cheering Taiwanese fans, advised people to cut down on plastics, use solar panels and take shorter showers to help protect the earth.

Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

-- An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporat-

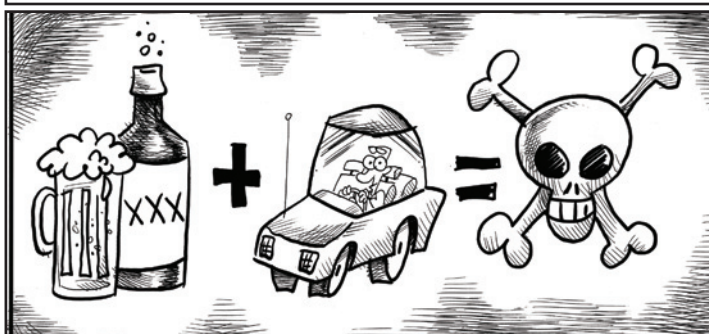
ing unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses of Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. **They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining.**

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From an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!





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SPORTS

Football: Platini wants referee conversations recorded



LILLE (AFP) - UEFA president Michel Platini on Friday revealed his intention to record discussions between officials in European matches as of next season.

"I understand the error of the referee who didn't see the foul by (Thomas) Mueller (on Jordi Alba in the build-up to Bayern Munich's third goal in their 4-0 win against Barcelona in the Champions League semi-final first leg)," Platini said during a visit to the northern French city of Lille to check on preparations for the Euro 2016 finals on Friday.

"But there were three international standard referees involved and none of them saw it. Something is not right.

"If the referee were on his own, he wouldn't have seen it, and two might not have seen it either but, between three, they have to see it!

"As of next year I have asked the general secretary (of UEFA) to record conversations between officials in matches

involving five officials.

"I don't believe that nobody saw the foul. It's not possible. Why was nothing said? I want to know."

Platini did however reiterate his opposition to using video evidence, insisting that the implication of such technology would be too expensive.

The France legend also stated his satisfaction at the progress being made by the country as it prepares to host Euro 2016.

"For UEFA, things are progressing well. Today there were plenty of green lights, and some that were more amber," Platini said.

He was speaking after a meeting of the Euro 2016 organising committee, which brings together UEFA, the French Football Federation, the French government, and the 10 designated host cities.

"I was making a reference to four years ago and where we were with Poland and Ukraine when all the lights were at red. I was very happy that the colours this time were different," added Platini, speaking of the Euro 2012 finals.

Lille's new 50,000-capacity venue, opened in August last year, is one of two in the far north of France that will host games in the finals, which will be the first in the history of the European Championship to feature 24 teams.

Meanwhile, Lambert announced that the logo for the tournament will be unveiled on June 26.

Boxing: Unbeaten Mayweather risks title against Guerrero



LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Unbeaten Floyd Mayweather returns to the ring after a year's absence that included a jail stint today, risking his World Boxing Council welterweight title against southpaw Robert Guerrero.

Mayweather, 43-0 with 26 knockouts, went to jail last June for domestic violence and since his release eight months ago has been working to regain the fitness needed to defend his place atop the list of boxing's moneymakers.

"I feel unbeatable," Mayweather said. "I'm in tip top condition. I'm in great shape. I have been working hard.

But fellow American Guerrero, 31-1 with 18 knockouts and a 15-fight win streak dating to 2005, sees himself as having been given this opportunity in order to humble Mayweather by inflicting the first loss of his career.

"Not just humble Floyd but humble the boxing world," Guerrero says of his mission. "Some people think Floyd is a god with the way he lives, the way he spends money. Some people think he is unbeatable.

"That 0 has to go. He's going

good game. Now we have to see if he can fight as well as he talks. He's more like a grappler, a wrestler, than a boxer."

Guerrero comes off a 12-round decision over Andre Berto last November and expects Mayweather to be formidable, ring rust or no.

Mayweather has his father, Floyd Sr., as his trainer for the fight and the elder Mayweather has exchanged harsh words with Guerrero's father Ruben in pre-fight promotions.

"We're going to beat up the woman beater," Ruben Guerrero said of his son facing Mayweather.

"I don't have to fight his father," the younger Mayweather said. "Like I told my dad, just carry yourself in a classy way."

Helping boost Mayweather's pay-per-view purchase numbers on the Mexican "Cinco de Mayo" holiday will be a Mexican showdown undercard title bout between unbeaten challenger Abner Mares, 25-0 with one drawn and 13 knockouts, and WBC featherweight champion Daniel Ponce de Leon, 44-4 with 35 knockouts.

to have his first loss."

And Guerrero thinks the lay-off will have more of an impact on Mayweather than he will admit.

"Having that year off, you have that ring rust," Guerrero said. "It's going to take a little time to shake that ring rust off. Being a whole year's layoff, he's going to feel the punches more."

Mayweather plans on making "The Ghost" feel a few blows as well.

"Everybody always says what they're going to do to me," Mayweather said. "He is a solid opponent. He talks a



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NBA: Warriors hold off Nuggets to reach second round

OAKLAND (AFP) - The Golden State Warriors squandered an 18-point fourth-quarter lead but held on to beat the Denver Nuggets 92-88 on Thursday to reach the second round of the NBA playoffs.

Stephen Curry scored 14 of his 22 points in a crucial third-quarter surge and Golden State survived some sloppy play in the final period to win the best-of-seven Western Conference first-round series four-games-to-two.

Australian NBA veteran Andrew Bogut, who battled ankle pain through much of the season, contributed 14 points and 21 rebounds for the sixth-seeded Warriors, who next face the West's second-seeded

San Antonio Spurs.

The veteran Spurs ousted the injury-depleted Los Angeles Lakers in four games.

The Nuggets, who won 57 games in the regular season to earn the third seed in the Western Conference, lost all three games of the series in Oakland to bow out in the first round.

Iguodala led the Nuggets with 24 points, nine rebounds and six assists. Ty Lawson added 17 points. Chandler scored 11 points but connected on just 5-of-17 from the floor.

Golden State's All-Star forward David Lee, expected to

miss all of the playoffs after tearing his right hip flexor in the opening game of the series, made a brief appearance in the first quarter.

The victory took the sting out of the \$25,000 fine levied by the NBA against Warriors head coach Mark Jackson earlier Thursday, for comments that the league deemed "an attempt to influence the officiating" of the series.

After the Warriors fell to Denver in game five on Tuesday -- missing out on a chance to close out the series -- Jackson accused the Nuggets of deliberately trying to injure Curry.

NFL: Cardinals linebacker arrested on assault charges



PHOENIX (AFP) - National Football League linebacker Daryl Washington of the Arizona Cardinals was arrested Friday on two counts of aggravated assault.

Washington, who was suspended last month for the first four games of the 2013 season that opens in September for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy, was arrested after police answered reports of domestic violence.

"This is a legal matter and I am limited in what I can say other than that my lawyer and I will continue to cooperate with investigators and welcome the opportunity for all the facts to be presented,"

Washington said in a statement.

"I regret that the situation has brought this kind of attention to my family and my team. I look forward to resolving it as soon as possible."

Washington, 26, has made 319 tackles, 15 sacks, four interceptions and forced three fumbles in three seasons with Arizona after being a second-round selection by the Cardinals in the 2010 NFL Draft.

Last season, Washington made a career-high 134 tackles, including nine sacks, and intercepted a pass as well as forcing two fumbles over 16 games.

Horse Racing: Black Onyx pulls out of Kentucky Derby



LOUISVILLE (AFP) - Black Onyx was withdrawn on Friday from the lineup for today's 139th Kentucky Derby, leaving only 19 horses in the field for the first event in American horse racing's Triple Crown series.

No reason was given for the decision to scratch the 50-1 longshot trained by Kelly Breen. The horse had won the Spiral Stakes on March 23.

Officials at Churchill Downs said Black Onyx's post

position, the first one along the rail, will remain vacant and all other horses will depart from their previously assigned gates.

Because the move came a few hours after the deadline for other eligible horses to be allowed into the field in the event of a withdrawal, Fear the Kitten -- the only eligible horse not to qualify for the field of 20 -- was not permitted to replace Black Onyx in the race.

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SAO PAULO (AFP) - Team Penske's mechanics set up a Will Power's car for the upcoming Sao Paulo Indy 300 race on Sunday, at the Anhembi Pavillion in Sao Paulo, Brazil on May 3, 2013. The Indy 300 race will be held on May 5.

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NBA: James to be named MVP on Sunday - report



playoffs by sweeping Milwaukee. Miami will play the winner of Saturday's Brooklyn-Chicago game in round two.

James averaged 26.8 points, 8.0 rebounds, 7.3 assists, 1.7 steals and 1.0 blocked shots a game in 76 appearances this season, his 10th in the NBA.

He shot career bests of 56.5 percent from the field and 40.6 percent from 3-point range and finished second in NBA Defensive Player of the Year voting to Spanish big man

Marc Gasol of the Memphis Grizzlies.

He led the heat to the winningest season in team history at 66-16, including a 27-game win streak that ranks second on the all-time NBA win streak list to the 33-game run by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers.

At 28, James would be the youngest player in NBA history to win a fourth regular season MVP award. Abdul-Jabbar, a record six-time MVP award winner, won five by age 30.

James would join Russell as the only players to win the NBA MVP award four times in five years and add yet another honor to an incredible past 12 months.

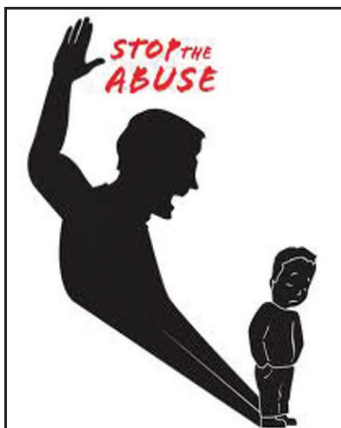
In that span, James has won last season's MVP award, the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award for leading the Heat over Oklahoma City for the title last June and an Olympic gold medal last August with the US squad of NBA stars at the London Games.

MIAMI (AFP) - LeBron James will on Sunday be named the NBA Most Valuable Player for the fourth season in his career, the second year in a row and the fourth time in five seasons, ESPN reported on Friday.

Citing unnamed league sources, the sports TV network said the Miami Heat star will join legends Michael Jordan, Wilt Chamberlain, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Russell as MVP award winners at least four times in their careers.

A 120-member media panel votes to determine the MVP award winner.

"King James" won his first NBA crown last year with the Heat and Miami advanced to the second round of this year's



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